



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)



Travelers Returning from Cruise Ship and River Cruise Voyages

Updated Aug. 27, 2020

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CDC recommends that all people defer travel on cruise ships, including river cruises, worldwide. That's because the risk of COVID-19 on cruise ships is high. People with an [increased risk of serious illness](#) should especially defer travel on cruise ships, including river cruises. CDC has issued a [Level 3 Travel Health Notice](#) for cruise ship travel.

On March 14, 2020, CDC issued a [No Sail Order and Suspension of Further Embarkation](#) for cruise ships operating in US waters; the No Sail Order was extended on July 16, 2020.

Passengers who return from a cruise ship or river cruise voyage are advised to [take extra precautions to protect others for 14 days after arrival](#)

CDC helping cruise ship travelers

Learn [what CDC is doing to help cruise ship travelers](#) during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Learn what CDC is
doing

What to do if you get sick after travel

If you get sick with fever, cough, or other [symptoms of COVID-19](#):

- [Stay home and take other precautions](#). Avoid contact with others until it's safe for you to [end home isolation](#).
- Don't travel when you are sick.
- You might have COVID-19. If you do, know that most people are able to recover at home without medical care.
- **Stay in touch with your doctor**. Call before you go to a doctor's office or emergency room and let them know you might have COVID-19.
- **If you have an emergency warning sign (including trouble breathing)**, get emergency medical care immediately.
- **If you live in close quarters with others, take additional precautions to protect them.**

If you have a medical appointment that cannot be postponed, call your doctor's office and tell them you have or may have COVID-19. This will help the office protect themselves and other patients.

If you are returning to an international port or disembarking an international river cruise

- Your return travel plans may be impacted. Foreign health officials may implement formal quarantine procedures if they identify a case of COVID-19 aboard your cruise ship.
- If you travel on a cruise ship or river cruise and disembark in a foreign port, you might not be able to receive appropriate medical care or be medically evacuated if you get sick.
- Some countries might refuse to dock your ship or allow passengers to disembark.

Additional Resources

If you need to contact your health department: [State & Territorial Health Department Websites](#).

[Cruise Ship Guidance: No Sail Order for Cruise Ships](#)

[Travel Recommendations By Destination](#)

[Travel during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

[Frequently asked Questions and Answers for Travelers](#)

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Content source: [National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases \(NCIRD\), Division of Viral Diseases](#)